

From: [Garyg Miller](#)
To: [Anne Foster](#); [Barbara Nann](#); [Barry Forsythe](#); [Donn Walters](#); [Jessica Hernandez](#); [Philip Turner](#); [Richard Wooster](#); [Robert Werner](#); [Stephen Tzhone](#)
Cc: [Carlos Sanchez](#)
Subject: Fw: San Jacinto River Big Star Operations
Date: 07/18/2011 10:41 AM
Attachments: [San Jacinto River Barge Fleeting Operations.pdf](#)

Lets discuss this at todays meeting.

Thanks,

Gary Miller, P.E.
Remediation Project Manager
EPA Region 6 - Superfund (6SF-RA)
(214) 665-8318
miller.garyg@epa.gov

----- Forwarded by Garyg Miller/R6/USEPA/US on 07/18/2011 10:22 AM -----

From: David Keith <dkeith@anchorqea.com>
To: Garyg Miller/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Valmichael Leos/R6/USEPA/US@EPA
Cc: Phil Slowiak <philip.slowiak@ipaper.com>, March Smith <msmith4@wm.com>, Andrew Shafer <dshafer@wm.com>, Jennifer Sampson <jsampson@integral-corp.com>
Date: 07/15/2011 04:34 PM
Subject: San Jacinto River Big Star Operations

Valmichael and Gary – As we have discussed with Valmichael in particular over the past few weeks, we are growing more concerned with the operations we are seeing at the Big Star property. Initially, they were moving soil/grading on the property, and although there is a concern that they may have moved some residual contaminated soils from sand separation operations on the land, we did not think that posed a significant risk to the TCRA or RI/FS process. However, this Wednesday we observed tugboats operating over areas with the highest concentrations of dioxin and furans in river sediments outside of the impoundment perimeter, and we have concerns that this tug and barge activity could undermine the integrity of the baseline sediment dataset completed for the RI/FS, and provides a recontamination potential to the TCRA cap. We observed a significant amount of turbidity in the river where the tugs were moving the barges as a result of prop-wash being generated by the tugs.

Of substantial importance is the potential for re-suspension of contaminated sediments to affect the concentrations of dioxins and furans in tissues of fish and crabs in the area. Disturbing contaminated sediment may remobilize contamination, not only changing conditions described by the RI dataset, but possibly worsening the problem of contamination of fish and crab tissues in the area.



9549023

The attached picture shows the barge fleeting area currently being utilized at the Big Star property and the approximate locations of the sediment sampling points with the relatively high concentrations of dioxins and furans in that area. We are not sure what our options might be in regards to these operations, but wanted to re-iterate our concern about this ongoing activity. Please let us know if you would like to discuss this issue by phone, or in person while we are in Houston next week.

Thanks,
David

*David Keith, Ph.D., P.G., C.HG.
Anchor QEA, LLC
614 Magnolia Avenue
Ocean Springs, MS 39564*

Phone: 228-818-9626 ext. 221
Fax: 228-818-9631
dkeith@anchoragea.com



San Jacinto River Barge Fleeting Operations.pdf